



Tuthill Farms and Composting, Inc. is located in Livingston County and has been composting since 1995 and farming since 1863. **We oppose repealing the yard waste ban.** As a farm we recycle grass, leaves, brush and manure into compost. This compost is used as a nutrient source and soil amendment as well as the basis for our topsoil blend. We use this compost on our own farm and it is also **used by the following:**

- The Greening of Detroit Initiative-compost is used to revitalize poor soils and bring agriculture into Detroit.
- Michigan State University School of Organic Farming
- Organic Farms
- Landscapers, Nurseries
- Homeowners

Why compost production is needed:

- Agriculture continues to be a leading industry in Michigan.
- Because of soil erosion compost is necessary as the organic component of farm soil. Organic farms especially depend on compost in the production of crops.
- Topsoil is made of inorganic material and organic material (compost). The landscaping industry in Michigan relies on topsoil.
- Michigan landscapers and residents continue the trend of gardening as a leading hobby in America. Compost and topsoil will continue to be in demand.
- Many communities are banning the use of fertilizers on lawns because of groundwater pollution concerns. Compost is used as an alternative.

Returning yard waste to the landfills is a backwards step for agriculture and environmental stewardship. Repealing the ban would end the composting industry in our state and eliminate our business. Please refer to the attached article from the Detroit News for more information.

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